India and abroad attended a conference on "Global Warming and Climate Change-perspectives from developing countries" organised by the Tata Energy Research Institute, New Delhi in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme, The Woods Hole Research Centre, USA, the World Resources Institute, USA, from 21-23 February, 1989 at Delhi.

(b) Government of India and other agencies have organised conferences on related subjects from time to time.

(c) and (d) Recommendations made by the conference have not been received in the Government.

Setting: ap of a sancturay in the Rala Mandal Hill area

2509. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Madhya Pradesh Government have requested his Ministry to provide sufficient funds for the setting up of a sanctuary in the Rala Mandal hill area; and

(b) if so, what action the Central Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) No proposal from the Madhya Pradesh Government seeking funds for setting up of a sanctuary in the Rala Mandal hili area is under consideration of the Central Government.

Indo-Lankan joint panel on tea

2510. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether India and Sri Lanka have recently set up a joint panel on tea;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) to what extent it will help in improving the production of tea in the country; and

(d) whether any concrete formula has been evolved in this regard and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI); (a) to (d) An Indian Tea Delegation visited Sri-Lanka and held discussions with Sri-Lankan authorities on matters of mutual interest including International Tea Scene. As a result of discussions both India and Sri-Lanka have agreed to set up a Working Group consisting of representatives of both the countries to work out the areas of mutual co-operation and the modalities for achieving such co-operation.

Trade between India and Sweden

2511. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Trading Corporation had contracted goods for exports to Sweden during 1988,

(b) whether it is also a fact that a Memorandum of Understandng between the two countries was of the order of Rs. 1724/- crores;

(c) if so, *to* what extent the trade between India and Sweden has been increasing; and

(d) what are the details of the agreements signed for the year 1989?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. 'R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) to (d) State Trading Corporation of India (S.T.C.) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) wth M/s. A. B. Bofors of Sweden on 30th March, 1987, which provides for export of a wide range of manufactured items and commodities of not less than 50 per cent of the va^ie of the contract amounting to SEK 8 4 billion or Rs. 1438 crores for supply of certain ordinance materials to Ministry of Defence. Under this MOU, exports take place not only to Sweden but to other countries also.

During 1988 goods worth Rs. 0.63 crores has beeₙ exported t₀ Sweden under this MOU. In addition goods worth Rs. 0.53 crores havₑ also been exported by S.T.C, to Sweden.

During 1988-89 (April t₀ Sept.) India's exports t₀ Sweden is provisionally placed at Rs. 38.21 crores and imports at Rs. 124.85 crores compared to exports at Rs. 36.81 crores and imports at Rs. *96* crores during the same per .od of previous year.

No trade agreement as such has been signed at Government level during 1989.

Alleged police repression in Batala and Gurdaspur districts of Punjab

2512. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA; SHRl RAM JETHMALANI: SARDAR JAGJIT SINGH AURORA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that several youths have fled their homes from Batala and Gurdaspur districts of Punjab out of fear of police repression;

b) if so, what arₑ the details in this regard; and

(c) what steps are being taken to al) ay their fear and whether any inquiry has been made into the allegations?

THE MINISTER OR STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAM-BARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise

West Bengai Land Reforms (Third Amendment) Bill

2513. SHRIMATI KANAK MUK-HERJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) when the West Bengal Govern-ment sent the "West Bengal Land Reforms (Third Amendment)" Bill passed by thₑ Stₐtₑ Assembly for President's assent; and

(b) the reasong for the delay in President's assent to the Bill?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH); (a) This wag sent by the State Government vide their letteᵣ dated 19-12-80.

(b) The issues arising out of tho Bill havₑ not yet been sorted out.

Confiscated Goods Lying iₙ Customs Houses

2514. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES; Will the Minister ₀f FINANCE be pleased t₀ state:

(a) whether Government arₑ aware of huge amount of confiscated smug gled goods worth lakhs of rupees, which are lying in the Customs ware houses, unsold foj- years and are get ting out-dated thuₛ depreciating their value due to the carelessness of the Customs officials, which will lead to great loss to the public exchequer;

(b) whether these items remained unsold because the Departmental Pricing Committees havₑ not fixed their prices and in other cases the price tags are misplaced often making latest items, specially electronic goods, outdated, which will fetch scrap valuₑ price; and

(c) if so, what is the value of such confiscated goodₛ lying iₙ thₑ Customs Houses throughout the country till date and steps takeₙ by the Government to speedily dispose it off and avoid pilferage over long period of time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN" THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA); (a) to fc) Confiscated goods are disposed of sooₙ afteᵣ they become ripe for disposal and there is no indication of any substantial los3 having occurred duₑ to delay in disposal. The value of goods seized,